



**U.S. Department of Energy  
Nonproliferation and National Security Institute (NNSI)**



## **Integrated Safeguards And Security Management (ISSM)**

### **What is ISSM?**

Since the beginning of its predecessor agency, the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has played a prominent role in the research, design, manufacture and transportation of nuclear weapons. The classified nature of this work has demanded the implementation of formal security procedures and requirements. Historically, security work has been implemented using a "top-down" approach with security requirements led and directed by the DOE's Safeguards and Security (S&S) divisions. Recent incidents at National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) facilities have caused NNSA and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to review how security is being implemented at their facilities. It has been discovered that this top-down approach to security did not ensure that employees at all levels - both contractor and Federal - understood and took ownership of their individual responsibility for integrating security into their work practices. NNSA therefore challenged its Federal managers to agree to a set of principles and a methodology to promote individual ownership and improvement of security performance at all DOE/NNSA facilities and thereby increase the level of protection provided. This resulted in the development of an Integrated Safeguards and Security Management (ISSM) system for DOE. ISSM is not a standard, nor is it a new program, rather it is a set of principles and a formal methodology that is the basis of integrated management of security in all work practices at all levels by all DOE/NNSA employees. In developing ISSM, DOE drew heavily upon a similar program, the Integrated Safety Management (ISM) system. ISSM is intended to assist in weaving together existing programs into a "system" that has as its foundation personal responsibility, and including security in all work practices.

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[www.issm.doe.gov](http://www.issm.doe.gov)